

*Faculty of Music
University of Toronto*

Thursday evening series

AH AHK

**(THE PERFORMING
ARTS OF KOREA)**

*MacMillan Theatre, Edward Johnson Building
November 9, 1972 at 8:30 p.m.*

SUNG KYUNG RIN
Komungo

KIM JOONG SUB
Taigeum

KIM SUNG JIN
Taigeum

KIM TAE SOP
Piri

KIM YONG
Taigeum

CHUN JAE KOOK
Piri

SHON BONG SAM
Haegum

KIM CHEON HEUNG
Ajaeng

KIM YOUNG SOOK
Dance

KWAK SUN HI
Dance

CHEUN UN HEE
Dance

PARK YOUNG JIN
Dance

KWAK KYUNG RAN
Dance

AN JUNG HI
Dance

HONG KYUNG RAN
Komungo

PAIK YU OCK
Dance

CHOO YOUNG HEE
Translator

PROGRAM

Kwanak, Sujech'on, Wind Ensemble

This is one of the best-known compositions of the court music repertoire. Kwanak, the wind ensemble, also includes two bowed, stringed instruments, the *ajaeng* and the *haegum*, which produce a long and sustained tone. The composition, *Sujech'on*, a title which means "long life is as everlasting as the sky", is characterized by long, slow and flowing qualities with highly expressive ornamentation in the flute parts.

Kagok, Lyric Poem

Kayageum solo, Sanjo

Sanjo is a form of improvisational music from the Cholla-do region of southwestern Korea. The soloist begins with a long, slow introduction and progresses to increasingly rapid tempos, improvising complex rhythmic and melodic variations on a basic melodic type.

Masked Dance, Tal Chum

This dance, featuring grotesque masks, was a satire on the aristocracy and the decadent Buddhist monks. An old monk descends from his mountain monastery, sees a young sorceress, is infatuated and offers his rosary as a gift. She casts it aside, but when he offers her more worldly gifts she allows him to dance with her. His joy is short-lived, however, for a red-faced rake and drunkard drives him off and wins her.

The Nightingale Dance, Choonaing Jun

Considered the epitome of refinement, this is the only surviving solo dance in the court repertoire. The dancer wears the elaborate costume of a Yi Dynasty courtesan, with long flowing, multi-colored sleeves. The dancer's movements are limited to the small area of a flower-patterned mat placed in the centre of the stage.

Kommu, Sword Dance

For this piece the dancers are dressed in costumes which resemble those worn by warriors of the mid-seventh century. The dance is said to commemorate a young soldier named Kwan Che-ang, who died in a battle between the warring kingdoms of Silla and Paekche.

Kwanak, Sujech'on, Wind Ensemble

The Farmers' Dance, N'ong ak

The farmers' dance is one of the most primitive and exciting of all Korean dances. On the occasion of the harvest, seed planting, and other festivities, farmers gather in the village square under a flag on which is inscribed the words "Agriculture is the foundation of the universe." Accompanied by the rousing sounds of various drums and brass instruments, the farmers, clad in brightly striped costumes, whirl about madly, each beating a small drum grasped in his hands.

INTERMISSION

Mugo, The Court Drum Dance

This is a Korean court dance in which a group of women, dressed in robes of the Yi Dynasty court, dance around a large circular drum.

Kwan Hyon Ak, Chong sang ji gok, Chamber Music Ensemble

The chamber music ensemble consists of a combination of wind instruments and bowed and plucked stringed instruments. This is the standard ensemble for the performance of Korean court chamber music. The composition, *Chong sang ji gok*, is made up of several short pieces and is, in fact, a group of light pieces in rather fast tempo when compared to the usual sedate style of Korean court music.

Folk Dance, Seung Mu

Kayageum P'yungchang, Sae taryung, Song of the Birds

When the Kayageum accompanies the voice, it is called *kayageum p'yungchang*. The Song of the Birds is a southern province folk song in the Korean Pansori style in which various bird sounds are imitated. The singers accompany themselves on the changgo, the hourglass drum.

Taegeum solo, Yu ch'o shin

The *taegeum*, the long transverse flute of the court music ensembles, is one of the most beautiful and expressive of Korean instruments. Flute parts from the ensemble repertoire are often played on it as solo pieces. *Yu ch'o sin* is an excerpt from a longer composition, *Kwanak yong san noe sang*.

The Cymbal Dance, Paramu

T'ae ch'wita, Muryung gok, The Military Band

T'ae ch'wita is royal processional music that was used during the Yi Dynasty to announce the arrival of important people. The musicians were attached to the guard of the city gate and they marched out to accompany high-ranking nobles into the city. The bright yellow robes are the traditional costume of the royal processional musicians. This same ensemble of horns, drums and gongs is also used in special Buddhist ritual.

Ch'oyongmu, Masked Dance

The five masked dancers wear different colored robes and represent the different points of the compass, a very important aspect of ancient Chinese ritual dancing. The Dancer in a blue robe represents the east, the red robe south, the white robe signifies west, the black robe north, and the yellow robe the centre.

Next Event: Sunday Afternoon Series - Sunday, November 12th
Elyakim Taussig and Kathryn Root, duo pianists

Next Thursday Evening Series: January 11th - Lois Marshall, soprano